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A Wasp Resembling a Bee (Hym.)

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A Wasp Resembling a Bee (Hym.).

By T. D. A. COCKERELL, Boulder, Colorado.

All entomologists have heard of the remarkable resemblances between certain butterflies of quite different families, but it is not so well known that in Australia the aculeate hymenoptera present some astonishing examples of "mimicry." A new example, now before me, is found in a small wasp of the genus *Mischocyris*, from Gilgai, New South Wales, December, 1911 (*W. W. Froggatt* 211), which in appearance and markings almost perfectly resembles certain bees, more particularly *Euryglossa geminata* Ckll., both being black, with the same general arrangement of yellow markings on the scutellum, post-scutellum, second abdominal segment, &c. The *Mischocyris* appears to represent a color-variety of *M. lucidulus* Turner.

Mischocyris lucidulus mimeticus n. race.

♂. Like *M. lucidulus*, but flagellum ferruginous beneath; upper border of prothorax (except laterally), spot on tubercles, large mark behind them, as well as scutellum and postscutellum, clypeus, lateral face marks, triangular supraclypeal mark, scape (except a black mark behind), and spot on each side of second abdominal segment, all bright chrome yellow; anterior tibiae with a broad yellow band in front.

M. lucidulus was described only from the female; it is possible that the differences found in the present insect are sexual, but they probably indicate a local race. Two specimens are before me. The type is in my collection; it will, however, eventually rest in some large museum.

Hymenoptera - Sphecidae - *Mischocyris*